

U.S. Senator Al D'Amato**of New York**

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UPON RECEIPTCONTACT: Ed Martin 202 224 6498
Gary Lewi 212 947 7390D'AMATO WANTS ALL DOCUMENTS FROM IDAR-OBERSTEIN PRISON CAMPCITES FORMER GUARDS WHO SAY MENGELE WAS HELD THERE BY U.S.

U.S. Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato (R-C-NY) said today that a second former guard at the Idar-Oberstein Prison Camp has surfaced to confirm that Nazi war criminal Josef Mengele may have been held by American forces immediately following World War II.

D'Amato said that the account of former PFC Richard A. Schwarz, who in 1945 served as a guard at the camp, corroborates information revealed last week by Walter Kempthorne, another guard who contends the Americans did have Mengele.

"We need to see the records from that camp," D'Amato said, noting that he has requested the Army to come forth with all information about the Idar-Oberstein Prison Camp.

"We know Nazi war criminals were held at that camp," D'Amato said. "Now, two former guards tell us that we had Mengele. If that's true, as I believe it is, then we must determine how he got free."

Last month, D'Amato requested Army Secretary John Marsh, CIA Director William Casey, and National Security Advisor Robert McFarlane to order an intensive search of post-war intelligence information. This is now underway and the Senator hopes that this information will determine how Mengele escaped and open new leads that will help find him today.

"If Mengele was in our hands and then released for whatever reason, we have an obligation to correct that horrendous mistake," D'Amato said. "The world must not remember that it was the United States that let the 'Angel of Death' go free to live a normal life after cruelly destroying the lives of so many innocent people."

On Sunday, Senator D'Amato revealed that the United States has information indicating that Mengele recently may have been in Portugal.

"It is most urgent that the United States contact the government of Portugal, provide whatever information we can, and ask that they immediately initiate a search for Mengele or those who have helped him," he said.

"We need every piece of information we can get if Mengele is to be brought to justice," D'Amato said. "The clock is running out - Josef Mengele is 73 years old this year. It would be a cruel mockery of justice if this monster who killed and tortured so many thousands of innocent men, women, and children, were allowed to die in his bed of old age without ever having been called to account for his crimes."

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